

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, Claims 1-3 and 5-9 are pending in this application. The Examiner rejected Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, rejected Claims 1, 4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), and indicated that Claims 2, 3, 6-8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 have been amended, Claim 4 has been cancelled, and New Claim 9 has been added in the foregoing amendment.

Claims 1-3 and 5-9 Are Definite

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The Applicants have amended Claim 1 to clarify that the guide and the locking member define the gap at the near side of the guide face relative to the first teeth. Claim 5 has been amended to clarify that the end of the guide at the near side relative to the first teeth and the projection of the locking member define a narrowed gap. The rejection to Claim 4 is now moot upon cancellation of Claim 4.

Takagi Does Not Anticipate

the Invention of Claims 1-3 and 5-9

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,664,837 to Takagi ("*Takagi*"). This rejection is traversed for the reasons discussed below.

Claim 1

Amended Claim 1 requires, among other elements, a locking member rotatable about a pivot on the base. In contrast, *Takagi* discloses a locking member 25' in Fig. 1(B) which is movable by the cam 34'. The locking member 25' of *Takagi*, however, is not rotatable about a pivot, as required by amended Claim 1.

Accordingly, *Takagi* fails to disclose the invention of Claim 1 and thus Claim 1 should be allowed.

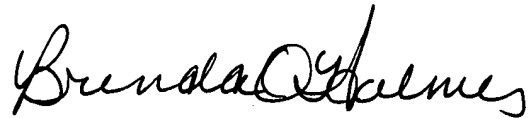
Claims 2-3 and 5-9

Claims 2-3 and 5-9 depend either directly or indirectly from independent Claim 1. The remarks made above in support of patentability of independent Claim 1 are equally applicable to distinguish the dependent claims from *Takagi*.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action identified above. This application should now be in condition for allowance, and the Applicants solicit a notice to that effect. If there are any issues that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned at 404.685.6799.

Respectfully submitted,



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